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TO:

Examiner Rodney P. Swartz –
(GROUP ART UNIT 1645)

FROM:

Robert H. Resis (Reg. No. 32,168)

COMPANY:

United States Patent Office

DATE:

October 2, 2003

FAX NO.:

(703) 872-9306

TOTAL NO. OF PAGES: (including cover sheet)

59

YOUR REFERENCE NO.:

10/061,036

OUR REFERENCE (C/M) NO.:

06005.00001

RE:

Application of Lloyd G. Simonson

Title: Rapid Lateral Flow Assay for Determining Exposure to Mycobacterium Tuberculosis and Other Mycobacteria

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Application 10/061,036
 Amendment Dated October 2, 2003
 Response to Office Action mailed July 2, 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
 (Attorney Docket No. 06005.00001)

In re Application of:

Lloyd G. Simonson

Serial No.: 10/061,036

Filed: January 30, 2002

For: Rapid Lateral Flow Assay for Determining
 Exposure to Mycobacterium Tuberculosis and
 Other Mycobacteria

Examiner:
 Rodney P. Swartz

Group Art
 Unit: 1645

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED JULY 2, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed July 2, 2003, please reconsider this application in view of the following amendment and remarks.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.

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OFFICIAL

Application 10/061,036
Amendment Dated October 2, 2003
Response to Office Action mailed July 2, 2003

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 19, with the following rewritten paragraph:

1
A
Several mycobacterial antigens are presently being exploited in the development of improved vaccines and serodiagnostic reagents. A 38-kDa antigen of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* was evaluated as a potential immunodiagnostic reagent (4). Wilkinson R.J., Haslov, K., Rappuoli, R., Giovannoni, F., Narayanan, P.R., Desai, C.R., Vordermeier, H.M., Paulsen, J., Pasvol, G., Ivanyi, J., and Singh, M. Evaluation of the recombinant 38-kilodalton antigen of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* as a potential immunodiagnostic reagent. *J. Clin. Microbiol.* 35(3): 553-7. Mar 1997. More specifically, serological tests pursuant to this method found a 72.6 % sensitivity of the test in comparison with that of culture, and the specificity was reported as 94.9%.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 16, with the following rewritten paragraph:

2
A
Figure 3 shows a top side view of an alternative embodiment of the present invention.